

Section 109. Conforming amendments.

Title II. Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 201. Repeal of the long-distance telephone call certification requirement.

Current Federal statute requires agencies to certify that individual long distance calls are in the interest of the Federal Government. This law dates from 1939, when a long-distance telephone call was expensive and viewed as a luxury. In many instances, the cost of certifying a call will often exceed the cost of the call itself.

According to the JFMP report, this change would save \$19.3 million per year.

Section 202. Authority to require use of the travel charge card.

Currently, Federal agencies receive a payment based on charges made by its employees under the government-wide travel charge card program administered by GSA. Many payments, including cash advances, hotel charges and airline tickets for travel expenses are not charged to the card. This limits the potential rebate.

Section 203. Prepayment audits for transportation expenses.

This section authorizes audits prior to payment to verify transportation expenses. All other invoices submitted to the Federal Government are generally audited by the procuring agency for correctness prior to payment. Currently, GSA uses audit contractors to perform prepayment audits on some transportation vouchers. These contractors have identified overpayments that were four times the amount of the payments to contractors, proving that this is a cost-effective tool. In contrast, the GSA Office of Transportation Audits spends \$11 million to recover \$12 million in overpayments using postpayment audits.

According to the GSA, this change would save \$50 million per year.

Section 204. Reimbursement for taxes on money received for travel expenses.

The 1992 Energy Act inadvertently established a tax liability for certain Federal employees. The Energy Act limited the income tax deduction for business related travel expenses incurred while away from home to a maximum of one year (the prior maximum was one year). Most temporary duty assignments are less than one year. Because of this tax change, most Federal agencies have limited temporary assignment to one year.

Most Federal agencies were unaware of this requirement because the IRS did not notify them until December of 1993 and did not withhold tax payments from the employee's salary. Thus, many of the impacted Federal employees were liable for a lump-sum payment plus penalty and interest. In some instances, the tax liability exceeds \$1,000 per employee.

According to GSA, this change would cost \$4 million on a one-time basis.

Section 205. Transfer of authority to issue regulations.

This section gives statutory authority to the Administrator of General Services to issue regulations, which are currently the subject of a delegation of authority from the President pursuant to several Executive Orders.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. BAKER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BAKER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### JUST DO IT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from Wyoming [Mrs. CUBIN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, you all have seen the Nike ad with the words "Just do it?" That should be the slogan for the Democrats in Congress. They talk about a balanced budget. I say: Just do it. They talk about welfare reform. I say: Just do it. They talk about tax relief. I say: just do it. They talk about an end to big government. I say: just do it.

Talk is cheap, and nowhere is talk cheaper than in Washington. We've had enough talk, enough rhetoric, enough promises. It's time to stop talking about change and start making it happen. What we need is action, and we need it now. We need to stop all this wasteful spending—now. We need to balance the budget—now. We need to end welfare as we know it—now. We need tax relief for the forgotten American worker—now.

Did you ever wonder why Washington waits to solve a problem until it becomes a crisis? The American people should never accept second-best from their government or their elected leaders. They deserve better.

And why not? America's best days are still ahead. In the America of the 21st century, no one needs to be left behind. If we stop all this tax and spend behavior, we will end the Clinton crunch that has contributed to our national anxiety. And if we stop all this spending, we will end the tax trap caused by misguided Washington bureaucrats who want to spend more of your money, leaving you with less.

Let me be as clear as I can. Americans have a right to earn more, keep more, and do more. That's how we restore the American dream. Working together in a spirit of respect, with the right economic policy and incentives, our nation's potential is unlimited. We are Americans. There is nothing we cannot achieve. The best is yet to come. I say, just do it.

#### CHURCH BURNINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. FIELDS] is recognized for the balance of the time until midnight as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about the issue of church burning. Before I do, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentlewoman from North Carolina who had a resolution tonight on the floor of this House and it passed. And I want to thank the gentlewoman for her leadership in that area. I also want to thank the gentleman from Oklahoma as well.

Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus to chair an issue that we have been talking about tonight for some time. That is the issue of church burning, burnings across the country.

I take a moment of personal privilege to talk about these church burnings

here again tonight because in my own State five churches were burned.

Second, Mr. Speaker, I feel like Fannie Lou Hamer tonight. I feel sick and tired of being sick and tired. I am tired of individuals who have no respect for human life and no respect to buildings, burning churches at night. I also feel sick and tired of being sick and tired because while individuals burn churches at night, we have people who wake up in the morning and put on black robes and burn congressional districts in the daytime. And I think that is simply unacceptable and unconscionable.

I am happy that the gentlewoman from Texas will be a part of this special order tonight and the gentleman from Illinois will be a part of this special order tonight, the gentlewoman from California as well as the gentleman from South Carolina.

Before we talk about church burnings, Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a little bit about the districts that were burned today in the Supreme Court. To know that as a result of this ruling, a State like the State of Texas, a State with a population of almost 20 percent African-Americans, will not have the opportunity, not the guarantee but will not have the mere opportunity to send an African-American to this Congress is absolutely unacceptable and unconscionable. These burnings must stop, not only the burning of churches but the burning of congressional districts and legislative districts across this country. In order for us to get along in this country, in order for us to move forward in this country, we will have to learn how to be more inclusive.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Texas, who has represented her constituents so well here in this body. I want to say to her in no uncertain terms that she has done a great job. Continue to press on and know that you must keep the faith. We are very pleased with the work that you do.

Now, on the issue of church burnings, Mr. Speaker, the CBC, the Congressional Black Caucus, we will first have a hearing right here in the Nation's capital. We will have the Justice Department. We will have ATF and all Federal agencies involved. That hearings will be headed and led by Congressman CONYERS. And we will talk, we will also have black churches, members, ministers of black churches to talk about these church burnings. Then we will leave this capital and we will travel across this country in each congressional district or each State where there has been church burnings, because we will not accept individuals putting torches to churches.

We are going to insist that every Federal agency in this country use every ounce of its power, every ounce of its resources, to make sure that we find the perpetrators of these crimes and bring them to justice and then move very swiftly to prosecute them.

I have, Mr. Speaker, a map of the entire United States of America which